PRINCIPAL’S NEWS AND VIEWS

Rugby Union
Following on from our very popular Rugby league Blitz day last Monday, our students were treated to a Rugby Union development day on Friday. Matt Johnson, from Hunter Rugby Union, came to our school and ran skills and drills workshops for all students from K-6. Speaking to Matt at the conclusion of his session, he was extremely complimentary about the talent, attitude and behaviour of our students. I have asked him to provide information about upcoming Union ‘Super Sevens’ tournaments that will soon be held in our area that may be of interest to our students.

Leadership Day
Our year 6 leaders are visiting Tenambit PS today to attend a leadership forum. The day will provide a perfect opportunity for our students to develop and enhance their leadership skills and knowledge. The initiative is another example of the close links we are developing with our neighbouring schools. Programs like today’s further support the effective transition of our students to high school.

Cross Country
Our annual cross country running trials will be held on Friday (March 15) at Morpeth Oval. Students will walk to Morpeth common at 1:20pm in readiness for the gruelling event. Junior students (8-10 year olds) will run 2 kilometres while our seniors (11 and 12 year olds) will run the 3 kilometre course. Hopefully a large contingent of parents will attend to support our students. I’m sure our participants will sleep well on Friday night!

High School Visit
Our visit from Mr Tim Weston, Principal of Maitland High School, and several students from the school last Friday was a great success. Students from years 4, 5 and 6 attended the information session that was held in the school’s library and they listened intently to information about the school and the subjects that will be available in year 7 and beyond. Mr Weston is committed to working closely with the feeder primaries to MHS and his message was well received by our students. On 27 March (Wednesday of week 9) our year 6 students will attend a gymnastics day at the High School. The day will provide a great opportunity for our students to experience some of the great activities available at the school while meeting students from other local schools and MHS staff.

Road Safety
Yesterday Mrs Webster attended a road safety awareness professional learning day. The safety of our students is of paramount importance and it is important that our school provides clear instruction and support in this area. On 22 May, our school will be holding a ‘Walk Safely to School’ day. More information will be made available about the day, including how we can support our students, in the coming weeks.

Yr 6 Cake and Pie Drive
Each year Yr 6 take part in various activities to raise funds to purchase a gift to present the school as they complete their primary school days. The first of these fundraising activities will be the annual Cake and Pie drive. Order forms have been sent home today and need to be returned complete with money by next Friday 22nd March 2013.

If there are any issues you would like to discuss, please contact me - Peter Edmonds
SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

$40 per year - $10 per term

Families who have paid for the entire year ($40) prior to the end of term will go into the draw to win a $100 Reading Movie Money Voucher.

School Contributions assist in the running costs and resource purchases for schools each year. Your support of this state initiative is greatly appreciated.

PSSA INDIVIDUAL SPORT TRIALS

Students wishing to trial for PSSA teams (as an individual) are asked to register their name at the school office. When trial dates and further information become available this will then be sent home to parents via the student. Students will need to be affiliated with a club in the given sport in 2012 or 2013.

MORPETH PUBLIC SCHOOL
Term 1 2013

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If you or a family member are able to help out on any of the days where the roster indicated “Help Needed” please advise your availability ASAP by contacting Beth Campbell on 0419 507 691, Kellie Upton on 0434 977 102 or the school office on 4933 6726.
Reading with your child at home
When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.

Removing head lice and nits
Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they’re not dangerous. Here’s everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.

Public speaking
Does your child suffer glossophobia? Fear of public speaking is common. Try creating opportunities for your child to present speeches to the family, without putting pressure on them to perform. Here are some tried and true tips to make your child’s next speech a success.

Science starters
Did humans live with dinosaurs? Does the moon disappear in the day? Kids love to know the answers to life's mysteries but there are a few facts they often get wrong in the name of science.

In the event that your child is absent from school, feel free to use the form below. This can be copied as many times as necessary.

STUDENT ABSENTEE NOTE - Please return to class teacher

CHILD’S NAME: .......................................................... CLASS: ..........................................................

Absence Dates: ..........................................................................................................................................

Reason for Absence: ..................................................................................................................................

Parent Name: ..........................................................................................................................................

Parent Signature: .......................................................... Date: .............................................................
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